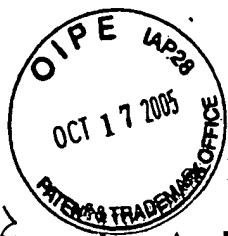


PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Van Pyumbroeck et al.

Serial No.: 10/649,494

Filed: August 27, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR
SPONGE CORING

Confirmation No.: 5871

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Group Art Unit: 3672

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Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are filed in response to the Examiner's remarks in the Final Office Action mailed July 18, 2005 and the Advisory Action mailed September 14, 2005, the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on October 18, 2005.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.